

Message Text

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51

ORIGIN TRSE-00

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----- 109093

R 211306Z JAN 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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FOLLOWING SENT LONDON INFO GENEVA FROM SECSTATE WASHDC

18 JAN 75:

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN

SUBJECT: GATT PANELS ON DISC AND RELATED TAX PRACTICES

REF: LONDON 16805

1. REQUEST YOU INFORM MESSRS. PREST AND CHOWN THAT WE CANNOT AT THIS TIME INDICATE PRECISELY HOW THE PANEL WILL ORGANIZE ITS WORK SINCE THAT WILL BE DECIDED BY THE CHAIRMAN IN CONSULTATION WITH THE PARTIES. WE ESTIMATE THAT THE PANELS WILL HAVE TO MEET IN GENEVA--PERHAPS AS MANY AS THREE OR FOUR TIMES--TO HEAR ORAL PRESENTATION OF BOTH PARTIES' CASES IN EACH OF THE FOUR COMPLAINTS. WE ANTICIPATE THAT EACH OF THE MEETINGS WOULD BE OF A FEW DAYS' DURATION AND WOULD BE SCHEDULED OVER A PERIOD OF SIX OR MORE MONTHS. AFTER COMPLETION OF THE ORAL PRESEN-

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TATION OF THE CASES BY THE PARTIES, THE PANEL MEMBERS WOULD

HAVE TO DEVOTE SOME TIME TO THE PREPARATION OF THE PANELS' FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS. NO ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE FOR COMPENSATING PANEL MEMBERS WHO ARE NOT OFFICIALS OR EMPLOYEES OF A GOVERNMENT OR AN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION. CONSIDERATION WILL BE GIVEN FOR COMPENSATING SUCH PANEL MEMBERS THROUGH ARRANGEMENT OF THE PARTIES.

2. REQUEST YOU INFORM MESSRS. PREST AND CHOWN THAT IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO ASSESS THE LIKELIHOOD OF THEIR BEING ASKED TO SERVE ON THE PANELS. HOWEVER, WE EXPECT TO BE MEETING WITH THE EC REPRESENTATIVES WITHIN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS TO DETERMINE THE PANEL MEMBERSHIPJM WE HOPE TO BE ABLE AFTER THAT MEETING TO INFORM PREST AND CHOWN AS TO WHETHER THEY WILL BE ASKED TO SERVE ON THE PANELS. KISSINGER UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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